Privatisation of airports

†2682. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to privatise other airports also after the privatisation of the airports in four metro cities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the estimated income of Government by privatisation of the each airport and details of the amount to be saved, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) The Government of India in January, 2000 approved the restructuring of the airports of Airports Authority of India as and when found suitable. The proposal regarding restructuring of airports other than four metro airports is at a preliminary stage, and details are yet to be worked out.

Non-payment of pension to IA employees

2683. SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines Management had signed a Pension Scheme with LIC of India in1996;

(b) if so, the reasons for not giving pension to retired employees inspite of deducting sizeable amount from their salary for the purpose; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) Indian Airlines introduced, with the approval of the Government, Employees' Self Contributory Superannuation Pension Scheme in 1997 covering employees retiring *w.e.f.* 1st April, 1994.

The inflow of contribution from employees commenced in May, 1998 after all the necessary approvals were obtained for establishment of a Pension Trust. A large number of employees, eligible to receive pension,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.